

## Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

ACDA-07 IO-13 OMB-01 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 /081 W

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R 301622Z AUG 76

FM USMISSION USBERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3004

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN UNN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 7195

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, WB, US, UK, UR, FR, GW, GE

SUBJECT: SOVIETS GIVE PUBLIC RESPONSE TO ALLIED PROTEST

REFS: A) USBERLIN 1775, B) USBERLIN 1774, C) BERLIN 6585

1. SOVIET EMBASSY IN EAST BERLIN HAS RESPONDED  
TO ALLIED STATEMENT OF AUGUST 26( REF A) WITH  
PUBLIC STATEMENT RELEASED TO EAST GERMAN  
NEWS AGENCY ADN AND PRINTED IN AUGUST 28/29  
WEEKEND EDITION OF NEUSUES DEUTSCHLAND.

2. MISSION INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF SOVIET  
TEXT AS IT APPEARED IN NUES DEUTHSCHLAND FOLLOWS:  
BEGIN TEXT: ON AUGUST 12, 1976, THE SOVIET  
EMBASSY LODGED A COMPLAINT WITH THE THREE  
WESTERN POWERS AND DREW THEIR ATTENTION TO THE  
MEETINGS AND RIOTS ( ZUSAMMENROTTUNG) PLANNED FOR  
AUGUST 13 THROUGH AUGUST 15 THE CHARACTER OF WHICH  
WAS HOSTILE TO PEACE AND DETENTE. THE SOVIET  
EMBASSY STATED, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT A LARGE  
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GROUP OF PEOPLE WAS EXPECTED TO COME TO BERLIN

TO TAKE PART IN THOSE RIOTS WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THE SO-CALLED RALLY. THE SOVIET EMBASSY EXPRESSED ITS HOPE THAT THE THREE WESTERN ALLIES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THEIR DUTIES RESULTING FROM THE QUADRIpartite AGREEMENT WOULD TAKE THE NECESSARY STEPS TO PREVENT THE PLANNED ACTIVITIES.

" ON AUGUST 26, A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE THREE WESTEN ALLIED AUTHORITIES WENT TO SEE THE SOVIET EMBASSY AND TRIED TO JUSTIFY THE ACTIONS OF THE INITIATORS OF THESE PROVOCATIONS. THE ALLIED REPRESENTATIVE WAS INFORMED THAT THE MEASURES TAKEN BY THE APPROPRIAT GDR AUTHORITIS WERE FULLY JUSTIFIED TO PREVENT THOSE PROVOCATIONS, THE INITIATORS OF WHICH TRIED INCOMPATIBLE WITH THE SPIRIT AND TEXT OF THE QUADRIpartie AGREEMENT. THIS WAS CONFIRMED BY THE DOCUMENTS PRESENTED BY THE APPROPRIATE GDR AUTHORITES TO THE FRG AT THE APPROPRIATE LEVEL. THE SOVIET EMBASSY EXPRESSED ITS ASTONISHMENT( BREFREMden) THAT THE THREE WESTERN POWERS PROTECTED THE DEMONSTRATIVE AND ILLEGAL ACTIONS OF CERTAIN RIGHT WING POWRS IN THE FRG. END TEXT.

3. PUBLICATION OF SOVIET STATEMENT PART OF CONTINUING NEUES DEUTSCHLAND( ND) CAMPAIGN TO JUSTIFY GDR ACTIONS IN TURNING BACK ALLEGED VIOLATORS OF TRANSIT REGIME. SOVIET STATEMENT APPEARED ON FRONT PAGE OF WEEKEND ND TOGETHER WITH BRIEF ANNOUNCEMENT OF AMBASSADOR COOPER'S MEETING WITH HONECKER( REF C) AND LONGER PIECES REPORTING ARREST OF SIX WEST GERMANS AND WEST BERLINERS ON TRANSIT ROUTES FOR ALLEGED EXFILTRATION ACTIVITIES, AND LONG CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE FROM PARTY LEADERSHIP TO GDR CUSTOMS AND BORDER OFFICIALS ON THE 24TH ANNIVERSARY OF THEIR ESTABLISHMENT.

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4. WEST BERLIN PRESS AND RADIO ALSO CONTINUES TO GIVE PRIORITY TO SUBJECT OF ALLIED PROTEST AND SOVIET RESPONSE. ALMOST ALL COMMENTATORS HAVE EXPRESSED POSITIVE REACTION TO TONE OF ALLIED STATEMENT ( CONTENTS OF WHICH ACCURATELY REFLECTED IN WELT STORY BY FRIEDHELM KEMNA) ALTHOUGH MOST HAVE VOICED MILD REGRET OF THE DELAY IN DELIVERY AND THE LEVEL AT WHICH IT WAS TRANSMITTED.

IN ADDITION CONSERVATIVE PAPERS ONCE AGAIN  
ATTACKED FRG FOR NOT HAVING REACTED IN MORE  
FORCEFUL MANNER.

5. COMMENT: SOVIET STATEMENT IS MIDL IN TONE,  
AND STOPS SHORT OF SAYING THAT GDR HAD BEEN  
JUSTIFIED BY TERMS OF TRANSIT AGREEMENT IN STOPPING  
STERNFAHRT PARTICIPANTS, ALTHOUGH IT DOES DEFEND  
THE GDR'S " RIGHT" TO PROTECT ITSELF AGAINST  
UNFRIEDNLY PROVOCATIVE ACTS. WHILE SOVIET  
STATEMENT PREDICTABLY TURNS ASIDE ALLIED  
PROTEST, IT DOES SO IN RESTRAINED FASHION.  
IN FACT " SPONTANEOUS"REACTION OF SOVIET POLITICAL  
COUSELOR( REF B) WENT FURTHER THAN STATEMENT  
PUBLISHED IN NEUES DEUTSCHLAND.  
GEORGE

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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